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Stripes™



A news digest from The Stars and Stripes

Sunday, April 12, 1998

Eight pages

Mom helps son escape jail

Stolen semi rams Everglades maximum-security prison

MIAMI (AP) — A stolen semi truck rammed through four security fences at an Everglades maximum-security prison during a breakout Saturday before its driver pulled out a shotgun and started firing.

One man escaped and authorities say his mother planned the whole thing.

The mother, the shooter and an accomplice were arrested, but her son, who was believed to have been injured, escaped, police said.

Police were searching for Jay Junior Sigler, 31, who had served eight years of a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and

robbery. He was last seen at a shopping mall after switching cars with his mother and two of her accomplices, police said.

Sandra Sigler, 58, thoroughly thought out her son's escape from the Everglades Correctional Institution, about 20 miles west of Miami, said Miami-Dade detective Rudy Espinosa.

"By all accounts, the mother masterminded everything," Espinosa said.

She allegedly had a friend, John Beaston, drive the truck cab through the prison's 9-foot fences.

Beaston got out and started firing a shotgun at guards and threw a gun to Jay

Sigler, who was in the prison's yard, Espinosa said.

Two prison guards were treated for injuries they received while diving for cover. Other guards returned fire and Jay Sigler was believed to be hurt.

Jay Sigler and Beaston drove off in Sandra Sigler's vehicle, which was waiting outside the gate.

Police caught Sandra Sigler, Beaston and an accomplice as they were trying to switch cars in a mall parking lot. Her son and another accomplice fled in another car. The three suspects in custody had yet to be charged late Saturday night.

Commander shows his colors with paternity leave for troops

By Stars and Stripes

SKPOJE, Macedonia — Capt. Cliff Prat's first child is due early next month. And, if all goes according to plan, the peacekeeper on duty in Macedonia will be at his wife's bedside — thanks to his commander.

"When your life flashes before you, one of the things that definitely sticks is witnessing the birth of your son or daughter," said the commander, Lt. Col. Randal Dragon of the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment.

Dragon's own wife gave birth shortly before the unit deployed from Schweinfurt, Germany, for a six-month stint of U.N. peacekeeper duty.

In an era when more than half of the Army's troops are married, at least 10 of Dragon's 350 soldiers are expecting to become fathers during their half-year away from home.

So Dragon keeps a personal calendar of when each baby is due and has promised his soldiers that they'll be home to watch the life-shaping event

in person.

Prat will fly out of Macedonia about two weeks before his wife, Bridget, is expected to deliver on May 4. He'll be given light duties at the unit in Schweinfurt so that he won't have to use his personal leave time.

Then, once Keenan Prat is born (the Prats know the baby's gender ahead of time) he'll sign out on leave and spend another two weeks getting adjusted to fatherhood before flying back down to finish his time in the Balkans.

Result: one happy father-to-be and one contented soldier.

"That not only meets my expectations, it exceeds my expectations, giving me a month at home," said Prat, 32, from Philadelphia. "When a commander does things like that for you, you are going to get my entire loyalty."

Still, long months from home are one of the toughest parts of a modern infantryman's life.

Military returns Okinawa land

Staff and wire reports

TOKYO — The U.S. military agreed Thursday to return a Marine training facility to Okinawa, the first parcel to be transferred under a promise to give back some of the land used by U.S. forces on the southern Japanese island.

The United States will return 1,186 acres of land and 19,513 acres of water in an area of northern Okinawa known as Aha, said Marine Maj. Todd Lyman, a spokesman for U.S. Forces Japan.

In an agreement reached by the bilateral Special Action Committee on Okinawa, the U.S. military released the site on the condition that Japan provide ocean access from the Marines' adjacent Northern Training Area. The swap will provide the military with 94 acres of rocky, oceanfront land.

The Aha parcel is the first land to be returned under a 1996 U.S.-Japan agreement to give Okinawa back 12,000 acres, or more than 20 percent of the area occupied by the troops.

Bases on Okinawa, site of a major World War II battle, have long been a key part of U.S. military strategy.

AAFES to put used cars on lots

By Stars and Stripes

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, which has been selling new cars in Europe for years, is launching a test program this month to see if it should get into the business of selling used cars.

Beginning April 29, Exchange Car Sales, which sells through AAFES, will offer a line of about 200 formerly leased Ford cars, with prices ranging from \$12,770 to \$25,733.

Initially, five models will be offered—the Contour, Taurus, Mustang, Windstar and Explorer, according to Steve Frisch, AAFES program director for the new campaign.

“The fact that they are all coming off short-term leases, and the quality and attention in reconditioning has produced a level above the normal used car,” Frisch said.

Although these “nearly new cars” as Frisch prefers to describe them, may not come with a factory new smell, AAFES expects the cars to offer good value for its customers.

The cars in this six-month test program will “provide an increased value and affordability to the military (buyer),” Frisch said.

The plan, he said, is to offer U.S. specification vehicles that have already gone through their most severe depreciation, so buyers get more value and less devaluation.

The cars are less than two years old and have no more than 30,000 miles, he said.

Navy's plan to ship napalm draws fire from Illinois

CHICAGO (AP) — Members of the Illinois congressional delegation are angered by the Navy's plan to ship 23 million pounds of Vietnam-era napalm to a suburban recycling plant.

The Navy had refused to reveal the actual route the shipments would have taken from storage fields near San Diego to the Pollution Control Industries plant in East Chicago, Ind., but Rep. William Lipinski, D-Ill., succeeded Wednesday in having the route made public.

Earlier plans reportedly would have taken the jellied gasoline through Denver and eventually through Chicago's western suburbs and possibly the city itself.

The published route turned out to be more southerly, with the napalm moving through Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri on Burlington Northern Santa Fe tracks, and then being shifted at Galesburg, Ill., to the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern tracks.

“If the Navy thinks that the Chicago congressional delegation will sit back

now that they've routed the shipments outside of Chicago, they're sadly mistaken,” Rep. Rod Blagojevich, D-Ill., said Friday. “As long as the shipments are being sent across the country and through Illinois, it continues to be our problem.”

Also opposing the shipments are eight other members of Illinois' House delegation and both of its senators: Carol Moseley-Braun and Dick Durbin.

Part of the route goes through residential sections of the Will County community of Frankfort, just south of Chicago, said village administrator Bruce Bonebrake.

“I'm shocked; no official from the (federal) government notified us of the delivery route,” said Bonebrake.

The recycling plan is part of a two-year, \$19.5 million effort involving 17 companies that will dispose of a napalm stockpile stored in California for more than 20 years.

PCI would recycle the jellied gasoline mixture into fuel for cement kilns.

South Korea ready for sea to part

By Stars and Stripes

TAEGU, South Korea — It's a scene that could've been lifted from the Old Testament: Twice a year, on an island shore at the southwestern tip of South Korea, the seas part.

Well, sort of. Tidal forces draw out enough water to

leave a narrow section of exposed sea bottom nearly two miles long near the Korean island of Chin-do, which is 210 miles south of Seoul.

Koreans — nearly a third of whom are Christian — have labeled the semianual phenomenon Moses'

Miracle.

The first parting this year comes around 5 p.m., April 26, 27 and 28. The second parting is in July.

Each time, about 300,000 Koreans and foreigners — primarily Japanese — show up at the small island.

British carrier docks in Bahrain

MINA SULMAN, Bahrain (AP) — The British carrier HMS Illustrious, patrolling a no-fly zone in southern Iraq, docked in Bahrain Saturday to replenish the ship's supplies and give a break to its crew before leaving the Persian Gulf.

Illustrious, which arrived in the gulf last month, “is expected to leave shortly,” said Capt. Stephen Meyer, commander of the aircraft carrier.

He did not specify a date for its departure but the British Embassy in Bahrain said the carrier would leave by the middle of this month.

Meyer told reporters that warplanes

aboard the 20,000-ton carrier flew several missions daily to the no-fly zone in southern Iraq and, “there were no disturbances at all from the Iraqis.”

“Iraqis appear to be cooperating much more with the United Nations,” said Meyer.

Britain and the United States had threatened military action after Iraq refused to open suspected weapons sites to U.N. arms inspections.

Tensions eased after U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan brokered a deal with Iraq on Feb. 23 to open eight of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's palaces.

Stripes

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Historic Air Force One ready for retirement

By Washington Post

WASHINGTON — It carried President John F. Kennedy to Berlin in 1963, and later that year brought his body home from Dallas. Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as president on board, Richard M. Nixon flew it to China, and last year the blue and white Boeing 707 ferried Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to Hong Kong for ceremonies marking the end of its standing as a British colony.

But now the Air Force is getting ready to retire the famed plane known as SAM 26000, or — as it is more commonly known under the call sign it carried for more than 35 years whenever the president was on board — Air Force One.

"This is one of those bittersweet moments," Brig. Gen. Arthur J. Lichte, commander of the 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base, said. "We're getting ready to say goodbye to probably our most historic aircraft."

Though the redoubtable aircraft is still a mainstay of the presidential fleet — last year it made 200 flights to 58 countries — the Air Force has decided that high maintenance and operating costs mean it is time to retire the plane. The plane flew its last operational mission in March, and goes on permanent display at an Air Force base in Ohio.

In mid-March, retired Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Joe Chappell and two other former crew members boarded their plane for the last time.

Chappell was on board the day SAM 26000 (SAM standing for Special Air Missions, and 26000 the tail number) arrived at Andrews in October 1962.

Kennedy had decided the new aircraft needed a distinctive look. The result has carried on more or less unchanged, a blue and white color scheme with "United States of America" emblazoned on the side.

Hospital officials question 'frowns' on patient list

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hospital officials were investigating if a frowning face drawn next to names on a list of deathly-ill patients was a code for a hospital worker who has confessed to killing 50 people, a former colleague said.

Ursula Anderson, another respiratory therapist who worked for three years with Efen Saldivar on the night shift at Glendale Adventist Medical Center, also said hospital investigators were scrutinizing four deaths on one night of his shift.

Anderson, a therapist for nine years who was fired by hospital officials April 3 without explanation, told the Los Angeles Times in Saturday's editions that she and three other respiratory care workers released by the hospital are scapegoats in any alleged wrongdoing.

"I've never done anything wrong," said Anderson, who was questioned last month by hospital officials.

Saldivar, 28, has recanted his original confession. He told the syndicated TV show *Extra*, in an interview broadcast Thursday, that he wanted to be sentenced to death for the killings because he didn't have the courage to commit suicide.

Saldivar had been in seclusion since state medical licensing officials revealed March 27 that police were investigating his confession. No charges have been filed and Saldivar remains free, but police are seeking evidence to corroborate his original claim that he killed dozens of patients since 1989.

According to Anderson, an attorney and hospital investigators questioned her for more than an hour days before she was fired.

Report challenges IRS 'fairness'

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new report is challenging the fairness of Internal Revenue Service criminal prosecutions, spotlighting cases where small U.S. cities had more convictions per capita than major business centers.

The study by the Transactional Records Access

Clearinghouse, or TRAC, reported per capita tax convictions were twice the national average in IRS offices in Pensacola, Fla.; Greensboro, N.C.; Memphis, Tenn.; and Charleston, W.Va.

But major business centers, including Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and Detroit, reported lower

than average criminal convictions, TRAC said.

The IRS said the TRAC data and the study's conclusions are flawed. But David Burnham, an author and research professor with Syracuse University who helped prepare the study, said the variation raises troubling questions about IRS management.

Storm victims' burials temper Easter festivities

PLEASANT GROVE, Ala. (AP) — David Helms buried his wife and two sons Saturday, the first of many funerals set for tornado-ravaged communities in Alabama trying to rebuild and hold onto hope at Easter.

A day normally filled with talk of revival instead offered the funeral as a reminder of the Wednesday night tornadoes that blasted through the South, leaving 40 dead — 33 in Alabama, one in North

Carolina, one in Mississippi and at least five in Georgia. Hundreds more were injured.

Debra Helms, 33, and her sons, 7-year-old Colby and 4-year-old Carson, all died when the tornado hit. The ceiling apparently collapsed on them as they rushed to the basement when the warning sirens sounded.

"It appears they did everything they were supposed to do when a tornado

hits," the Rev. Henry Staggs said in the eulogy. "Only God understands why this happened. We can't see what he sees."

Under vivid blue skies — the first nice day since the storm — some 300 mourners watched a single casket carrying Helms and her sons brought into Forest Grove Cemetery. Five more funerals are planned there for Monday.

Also buried Saturday were Bruce Skinner Jr. and Rebecca Skinner.

North Korea scavenges for food, U.N. says

BEIJING (AP) — North Korea's meager harvest from a third year of drought has run out, forcing its people to rely on foreign donations and scavenge for roots and edible plants, a U.N. agency said Sunday.

It could be years before North Korea can reform its centrally planned agriculture and feed its 24 million people, said Catherine Bertini, executive director of the World Food Program.

"The crisis is not over. Food aid must continue until they have a considerably better harvest and agricultural production," Bertini said after returning from a four-day visit to the secretive north.

North Korea also ran out of grain last spring, leaving it dependent on donations, foreign purchases and scavenged seaweed, grass and materials.

Flooding and drought have combined with years of communist mismanagement and the loss of Soviet bloc aid to

push one of the last communist countries to the brink of widespread famine. According to Chinese news reports, the autumn harvest produced only 60 percent of the minimum amount of grain needed to feed the country.

"Public distribution warehouses are empty," Bertini said.

Bertini said that because of foreign aid, conditions are better for children, hospital patients and other "vulnerable groups." Schools have almost full enrollment, compared with just 20 to 25 percent of students showing up a year ago, and children look healthier and more active.

However, she added that she saw many thin, malnourished children "with a sickly pallor."

The World Food Program appealed April 1 for a further 658,000 metric tons of food donations to serve about 7.4 million people.

Foreigners arrested in Chiapas raid

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico (AP) — Nearly 800 police and soldiers arrested 11 foreigners Saturday in a raid on a town in Chiapas state where rebel supporters had set up their own town council.

In a predawn raid, police broke up the council in Taniperlas, near the Guatemalan border, about 95 miles east of Chiapas capital San Cristobal del Las Casas. They also arrested eight Mexicans and

forced several Indian villagers from buildings.

The foreigners, including citizens of Belgium, Spain, Canada and the United States, were reportedly observers in Taniperlas.

They were taken to San Cristobal for hearings before immigration authorities, a process that often results in deportation.

Immigration officials in Chiapas have broadly interpreted a constitutional ban on foreign interfer-

ence in politics to deport foreigners who talk about current events or who attend rebel-sponsored events.

The parallel council, established Friday, supported Zapatista rebels who staged a brief armed uprising in Chiapas in January 1994.

It was the latest of dozens of autonomous municipalities set up recently, which the government calls illegal and provocative.

Indonesians remain holed up in embassy

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Eight Indonesian illegal immigrants remained holed up at the U.S. Embassy today while Washington determines their fate.

Jim Warren, spokesman for the embassy, said he didn't expect a decision until Monday about what to do with the eight men who scaled the compound walls on Friday.

Dozens of Indonesians who claim to be from Aceh, a region in Indonesia seeking independence, also jumped over walls around other embassies Friday morning.

Most were removed by police and will be shipped back to Indonesia with other illegal immigrants. But the eight at the U.S. Embassy will remain there until State Department and U.N. officials have determined their status.

World support grows for hunger strike

From Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India — Support has poured in from around the world for six Tibetan activists who have been on hunger strike since early March to demand U.N. action to end repression in their Himalayan homeland.

Among prominent supporters was Chinese dissident Wei Jinsheng, who appealed in a statement Saturday for international help for the Tibetan cause. Wei spent nearly 18 years in a Chinese prison before being exiled to the United States last year.

The hunger strikers, led by 71-year-old Kun Sang, had not eaten for 33 days by Saturday. They are demanding that the United Nations raise the issue of Tibet in the General Assembly, appoint a representative to investigate China's human rights record in Tibet and name a special envoy for Tibet.

Priest makes case

WARSAW, Poland — A prominent Polish Catholic priest barred from the pulpit for anti-Semitic remarks has decorated an altar for Easter with signs defending a controversial cross near the Auschwitz death camp.

The Rev. Henryk Jankowski placed placards reading "Let's respect national symbols," "Solidarity," and "Auschwitz" at his St. Brygidka church in the port city of Gdansk. He is still the church's chief cleric, though he has been barred from giving sermons for one year.

Jews around the world have demanded that the 26-foot cross, which commemorates a 1979 Mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II, be removed from grounds near the former Nazi concentration camp as a sign of respect for Holocaust victims.

But in Poland, an overwhelmingly Roman Catholic country, backers of the cross say it is a symbol of Poland's martyrdom and resistance under Nazi occupation and of anti-Communist opposition.

5 killed by van

TOKYO — A van driven by a man who had been drinking plowed into a float during a religious festival Saturday, killing five and injuring 23.

The float was the last of four moving in a procession through the town of Dai-go, about 80 miles northeast of Tokyo.

Still smooth, 'Hanoi Hannah' slips into anonymity

By Los Angeles Times

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam — Her voice was as smooth as silk, her English impeccable, and as North Vietnam's premier propagandist, "Hanoi Hannah" tried to convince GIs they were fighting an immoral war that America had turned against.

For eight years, the GIs tuned in to her daily radio broadcasts in Godforsaken outposts with names like the Rockpile, Ben Het and Con Thien. Although virtually no one took her seriously, they did wonder if she was as lovely as she sounded, and many considered her Hanoi's most prominent Communist after Ho Chi Minh.

Hearing this today, 67-year-old Hanoi Hannah — whose real name is Trinh Thi Ngo — giggles, feigning surprise. "Oh, my," she says. "I wasn't a celebrity. I did

love that time in Hanoi, but I was just an ordinary citizen trying to contribute to my country."

Petite and, yes, lovely, Ngo did the last of her 30-minute broadcasts in 1973, when the bulk of the U.S. military withdrew. She moved to Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) in 1975 with her husband, an engineer now retired. They live in a modest three-bedroom apartment, near the former Presidential Palace she used to call the "den of puppets," and listen faithfully to newscasts on the Voice of America.

Although she earned a First-Class Resistance Medal for her work and still does occasional translation and voice-overs for the Voice of Vietnam, Ngo has slipped quietly into anonymity, surrounded by young Vietnamese who have never heard of the Rockpile, much less Hanoi Han-

nah.

"This is Thu Huong calling American servicemen in South Vietnam," her daily broadcast would begin, using an alias that translates as Autumn Fragrance. Then she'd play a melancholy song (*Where Have All the Flowers Gone* was a favorite), read news of anti-war protests back in America and, on Fridays, recite the names of Americans killed in action from *The Stars and Stripes*.

"My goal was to tell GIs they shouldn't participate in a war that wasn't theirs," she says now. "I tried to be friendly and convincing. I didn't want to be shrill or aggressive. For instance, I referred to the Americans as the adversary. I never called them the enemy."

Her scripts were written by propagandists in the North Vietnamese army.

Israeli planes attack bases in Lebanon

NABATIYEH, Lebanon (AP) — Israeli warplanes raided suspected guerrilla positions in southern Lebanon today.

Two Israeli jets fired six air-to-surface missiles on hills near the deserted village of Sojod in Iqlim al-Tuffah, a Hezbollah stronghold that faces an Israeli-occupied border enclave in southern Lebanon, said Lebanese security officials, speaking on customary condition of anonymity.

Plumes of black smoke billowed from the stricken area, but there was no immediate word on casualties from the 9:15 a.m. air strike, the second on Iqlim al-Tuffah in 10 days.

Iqlim al-Tuffah, or Apple Province, is a frequent target of Israeli warplanes.

The area is used by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla group as a base to launch attacks on Israeli troops and their allied Lebanese militiamen in the occupied zone.

The air raid came 11 days after Lebanon rejected Israel's offer to withdraw from southern Lebanon in return for security guarantees.

Lebanon has insisted that Israel abide by a U.N. resolution that calls for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the south.

Karadzic's planned defense already in circulation

By New York Times

ZAGREB, Croatia — There is a 144-page blue paperback book circulating in the Bosnian Serbian area of Bosnia, published in Serbo-Croatian and English, with the title *The Hague Against Justice Revisited: The Case of Dr. Radovan Karadzic*.

The book is a response to the charges of genocide leveled against the Bosnian Serbian wartime leader in connection with the 43-month siege of Sarajevo and the massacre of several thousand Bosnian

Muslims in the summer of 1995 in the Srebrenica area. It argues that Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serbian president, psychiatrist and amateur poet, never controlled the Bosnian Serbian military and often tried to moderate its behavior.

The long appendix reprints letters to international officials and orders to show "respect for the Geneva Conventions" and the right of the International Committee of the Red Cross to work unhindered. If anyone is guilty

of war crimes, the book argues, it is the former Bosnian Serbian military commander, Gen. Ratko Mladic, who often defied Karadzic, the book says, and "held the Military High Command of Republika Srpska under control."

The defense is not new — it has been floated by Karadzic's supporters for several years — and neither are the recent attempts by intermediaries to suggest special arrangements for a trial.

Farm aid on Korean talks agenda

BEIJING (AP) — Meeting officially for the first time in four years, North Korea and South Korea agreed today to discuss farm aid to the starving North and reuniting families split by the Korean War, a South Korean diplomat said today.

Washington has expressed keen interest in the meeting, saying it could stir progress in separate peace talks aimed at ending the 45-year-old military standoff

across the heavily armed Korean border, the last active Cold War battle line.

The two sides also will discuss exchanging envoys for more in-depth talks and resuming official contacts across their heavily armed border, said Jeong Se-hyun, head of the South Korean delegation.

The two sides have had little contact since the 1950-53 Korean War.

Is there a difference?

Robin Williams goes from his Oscar-winning performance as a psychologist in *Good Will Hunting* to a role as a misfit medical student in *Patch Adams*.

Williams stars as Hunter "Patch" Adams, whose perfect bedside manner turns the medical establishment upside down, but helps his patients heal.

Williams' wife, Marsha, is a co-producer on the Universal Pictures film being shot in Asheville, N.C., and San Francisco, where the couple lives.

The movie is set to be released in December.

Gift-giver has surgery

Oseola McCarty, the laundry woman who gave \$150,000 of her life savings to the University of Southern Mississippi in 1995, was in stable condition after surgery for a malignant colon tumor.

McCarty, 90, has been hospitalized at Forrest General Hospital in Hattiesburg, Miss., since April 5. Tests detected the tumor, which was removed Friday.

Doctors said the surgery was a success, USM spokesman Bud Kirkpatrick said. McCarty had been suffering from a "terrible cold and seemed to get weaker and weaker" until she was hospitalized, he said.

McCarty made headlines in 1995 when, after a lifetime of taking in laundry and living without luxuries, she donated the money to the university.

Judge lets Kingsmen feel like real royalty

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — *Louie Louie* made money money, but the Kingsmen haven't received any royalties for at least 30 years. A federal appeals court ruled Friday the band should.

The band that recorded the hit version of the rock standard in 1963 signed a contract in 1968 that was supposed to provide them with 9 percent of the profits or licensing fees from the record.

They never got a cent, said the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. In 1993, the Kingsmen, some of whom are still on tour, sued Gusto Records and GML, who held the rights to the recording. A federal judge rescinded the contract, granted the musicians the right to all royalties.

**Faces
'n'
places**

McCarty helped New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani usher in 1997 by signaling technicians to bring the flashing ball down a pole at Times Square for the nationally televised celebration.

Robert Besser, an attorney for Gusto Records and GML, declined comment.

Kiner goes on leave

Illness is forcing Hall of Famer Ralph Kiner to take an indefinite leave from his broadcasting job with the New York Mets.

Kiner's wife, DiAnn, is undergoing bone marrow therapy for cancer, and he is having trouble with his speech.

The speech problem became apparent in November, and Kiner said he is improving. Earlier, the 75-year-old Kiner traced the problem to Bell's palsy, but he now says it might also be the result of a slight stroke.

He said he is not concerned about his health because he is getting better. "My first priority is my wife," Kiner said.

Kiner hit 369 home runs in his career, most of them for the Pittsburgh Pirates. He has been broadcasting for the Mets on television and radio for 36 seasons.

Michael: Not the first time

In his first public comments since he was arrested on charges of committing a lewd act in a public bathroom, George Michael told CNN "I won't even say it's the first time it's happened."

"I put myself in an extremely stupid and vulnerable position," he said.

Britons think Diana's memory being exploited

LONDON (AP) — A large majority of Britons believe the memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, memory is being exploited and that she's still the focus of too much media coverage, according to a poll released Saturday.

A Gallup Poll in the Daily Telegraph said 90 percent of those asked said Diana's memory was being exploited and 80 percent said her image was being used in bad taste.

The use of the official logo of the princess's memorial charity on a tub of margarine has been widely criticized, and the poll found 94 percent of those asked said that was wrong.

Seventy-four percent said it was wrong to use her face on souvenir products and 73 percent said it was wrong to sell tickets to visits to Althorp, the Spencer family estate where the princess was buried after her death in a car crash Aug. 31.

Using poll responses, the newspaper listed groups they thought exploited Diana's memory.

At the top of the list, with 85 percent, were the news media, followed by 62 percent for the charity industry, 61 percent for business in general, 46 percent for the Spencer family and 36 percent for "the general public."

Asked to assess the media coverage, 71 percent said there was too much.

In The Stars and Stripes

10 years ago

April 12, 1988 — Arab hijackers of a Kuwait Airways jet killed a hostage and tossed his body onto the tarmac after threatening to slay a member of Kuwait's royal family.

20 years ago

April 12, 1978 — President Carter announced that he would cap the Oct. 1 pay raise for military and federal employees at 5½ percent as an anti-inflation measure.

30 years ago

April 12, 1968 — Defense Secretary Clark Clifford announced the immediate call-up of about 24,000 Army, Navy and Air Force reservists. About 10,000 of them would be sent to Vietnam.

40 years ago

April 12, 1958 — A coroner's jury, hearing testimony by a tearful Lana Turner, held that the stabbing by her daughter of Turner's violent boyfriend, was justifiable homicide.

50 years ago

April 12, 1948 — In Bogotá, Colombia, following a violent revolt in which some 300 were killed, a new coalition government was formed that placed the country under martial law.

Vols' Summit, Utes' Majerus win Woodens

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Tennessee's Pat Summitt and Utah's Rick Majerus were given the 1998 John and Nellie Wooden Award on Saturday.

Former UCLA basketball coach Wooden called Summitt and Majerus "two of the finest coaches in America who have left a legacy in the sport of basketball." He said the award is special to him because it also bears the name of his wife, Nellie, who died in 1985.

The award is given each year to top men's and women's college basketball coaches as voted by a panel of 65 sportscasters, NBA and WNBA coaches and executives, and college coaches and executives.

Summitt's Tennessee Lady Volunteers went undefeated this season and won the NCAA women's championship, their third straight national title. She has coached at Tennessee for 24 years, winning 650 games and six NCAA championships.

Majerus took Utah's Utes to the Final Four this year, losing the championship game to Kentucky. His winning percentage of .736 is 13th among active NCAA coaches.

Couples alone in front of less windy Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The angry wind that shouted through the towering Georgia pines for two days, as if upset by the way Tiger Woods dominated last year, lowered its voice Saturday and the players lowered their scores at the Masters — except for Woods.

Player after player moved into the red numbers, led by Fred Couples, whose bold iron from 204 yards on No. 13 for a near-gimme eagle helped the 1992 Masters winner shoot a 71 to be at 6-under-par 210, two strokes ahead of Phil Mickelson, Paul Azinger and Mark O'Meara.

"I made a few mistakes, but I started the day tied for the lead with David Duval. Now I'm two ahead of whoever," Couples said.

With the wind still swirling but with consid-

erably less force, many made moves on Move Day at the Masters, including O'Meara, who shot a 68, and Azinger and Mickelson, who both turned in a scorecard with a 69.

But while others were gaining ground, Augusta National held Woods at bay.

His erratic iron play finally caught up with him. He missed half the greens in the first two rounds and lived by his putter. The magic with the blade finally ran out.

He was four over par through the first six holes — including a double bogey — and rallied with four birdies in the last seven holes to salvage a 72 to be at 215, five strokes behind Couples as he goes into today trying to become only the third man to win consecutive Masters titles.

Woods shot a 65 in the third round of his 12-stroke victory last year and put the tournament away by taking a nine-stroke lead into the final round. Asked if he may have lost the Masters on Saturday this year Woods said:

"I haven't lost anything. I'm right there, bud. I'm pretty confident."

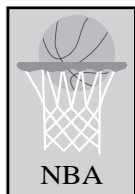
Birdie putts were finding the hole all over Augusta National. But nothing was as electric as when 58-year-old Jack Nicklaus made consecutive birdies on No. 15 and 16 and his name appeared on the leaderboard.

Nicklaus, the winner of six Masters, rolled in a 25-foot putt to make par on the final hole, urging the ball in with a pumped fist and then raising his eyes to the heavens as the massive gallery again roared its approval.

Bulls clinch 3-round homecourt advantage

By Associated Press

The Chicago Bulls clinched the best record in the East with their 60th victory, beating the Orlando Magic 87-78 Saturday night behind 37 points — and a left-handed airball from the free-throw line — from Michael Jordan.



The two-time defending champions (60-18) have earned homecourt advantage at least through the first three rounds of the playoffs. The Bulls also are one game ahead of Utah for the best overall record after the Jazz were beaten at Minnesota on Saturday night, 110-103.

In other games Saturday, it was Dallas 98, Denver 81; and the Los Angeles Lakers 96, Golden State 84.

Jordan, who shot 15-of-25 from the

floor but only 4-of-10 from the line, air-balled a left-handed free throw with the Bulls ahead by 17 late in the third quarter.

Jordan, who sat out the first seven minutes of the final quarter, also had two assists, giving him 5,000 for his career.

Grizzlies 105, Trail Blazers 96 (OT)

At Vancouver, Shareef Abdur-Rahim matched his season high with 31 points, including four in overtime, as Vancouver snapped a four-game losing streak.

Vancouver's Tony Massenburg, filling in for injured center Bryant Reeves (bruised right knee), finished with a season-high 22 points before he was ejected with 2:59 left in overtime.

Cavaliers 106, 76ers 95

At Cleveland, Wesley Person shot 7-

for-10 from 3-point range and scored 25 points as Cleveland had its highest scoring half of the season — 70 points.

The Cavaliers moved within 2½ games of Atlanta for the fifth seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Timberwolves 110, Jazz 103

At Minneapolis, the Timberwolves guaranteed the first winning season in franchise history.

Stephon Marbury had 30 points and 10 assists.

Mavericks 99, Nuggets 81

At Dallas, Shawn Bradley had 18 points, 14 rebounds and four blocks.

Nets 124, Bucks 117

At Milwaukee, Sam Cassell had 29 points and 13 assists and Kerry Kittles added 25 points for New Jersey.

Bosox' Martinez proves worth

By Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Pedro Martinez struck out 12 and gave up just two singles in nine innings as the Boston Red Sox beat the Seattle Mariners 5-0 Saturday.

Martinez (2-0) allowed only six balls out of the infield in his first home game with the Red Sox, who dealt top pitching prospect Carl Pavano to Montreal for him and signed the right-hander to a guaranteed six-year, \$75 million contract.

He walked only two and lowered his ERA to 0.39. The only hits he allowed were singles to Joey Cora in the fourth and Alex Rodriguez in the sixth.

In other games, it was Minnesota 8, Kansas City 3; and Toronto 9, Texas 8.

The Red Sox went ahead 1-0 in the first against Jamie Moyer (1-2) on a single by John Valentin and a double by

Jim Leyritz.

Orioles 2, Tigers 0

At Detroit, Mike Mussina allowed only two hits in eight innings and notched his 1,000th career strikeout, leading Baltimore over Detroit.

Mussina (2-1) struck out nine and walked two — his first in 23 innings this season — and allowed singles in the second and fourth innings. Armando Benitez walked the leadoff hitter in the ninth before getting his third save.

Baltimore scored its runs in the first on three successive singles and an RBI grounder off Justin Thompson (1-2)

Indians 8, Angels 5

At Cleveland, Jim Thome and Brian Giles hit two-run homers and Charles Nagy won despite allowing three homers.

Thome homered for the second straight day, a 453-foot blast off Jason Dickson (0-2). The Indians improved baseball's best record to 8-1, their best start since going 10-0 in

1966.

Shawon Dunston had an RBI triple, Kenny Lofton had his sixth steal and Nagy (2-0) won his second straight start.

Yankees 3, Athletics 1

At New York, Andy Pettitte and two relievers restored a sense of order as New York defeated Oakland in a low-scoring game one day after the highest-scoring affair in Yankee Stadium's 75-year history.

Pettitte (1-2) allowed only one run and five hits in six innings before being relieved by Jeff Nelson, who pitched a perfect seventh. Mike Stanton pitched the final two innings for his second save.

Devil Rays 5, White Sox 1

At Chicago, Rich Gordecki gave up three hits over seven innings, Kevin Stocker hit a solo homer and Bobby Smith added a two-run single to lead Tampa Bay to its first road win.

Marlins hit with loss No. 10

By Associated Press

The Florida Marlins lost their 10th straight game on Saturday when pinch-hitter Jose Guillen homered on Jay Powell's first pitch in the 10th inning, giving the Pittsburgh Pirates a 7-6 win.



Florida hasn't won since beating Chicago in the season opener on March 31 and is off to the worst start ever by a World Series champion. The 1947 Cardinals, 1964 Dodgers and 1984 Orioles started their seasons 2-8.

In other games, it was Houston 6, Los Angeles Dodgers 2; and San Diego 7, Arizona 0.

Mets 2, Brewers 1

At Milwaukee, Rey Ordonez singled in the winning run in the ninth inning to give New York the victory.

With one out, Butch Huskey doubled off Bob Wickman (0-3). After Carlos Baerga struck out, Wickman intentionally walked pinch-hitter Matt Franco. Ordonez, who hit a sharp single to center.

John Franco relieved winner Dennis Cook (1-0) to start the ninth and picked up his second save.

Mets starter Masato Yoshii, who has not allowed an earned run in 13 innings, allowed five hits, three walks and one unearned run in six innings.

Expos 5, Cubs 4, 10 innings

At Montreal, Vladimir Guerrero doubled home the winning run in the bottom of the 10th to give Montreal its second win this season.

Reds 12, Rockies 5

At Denver, Barry Larkin hit his first homer and Bret Boone drove in three runs as Cincinnati routed reeling Colorado.

Cardinals 7, Giants 2

At San Francisco, Mark McGwire drew a bases-loaded walk for his 1,000th career RBI during St. Louis win over San Francisco.

Phillies 6, Braves 5

At Philadelphia, the first-place Phillies beat Atlanta for the third time this season, holding on for their fifth straight win.

Stroke brought on by brain tumor killed heavyweight champion

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Former WBA heavyweight champion Big John Tate died of a stroke caused by a brain tumor, a medical examiner says.

Tate, 43, champion for five months in 1979-80, died Thursday. He was driving a pickup truck that crashed into a utility pole.

"He had a massive stroke on the right side of his brain," Dr. Sandra Elkins, the Knox County medical examiner said Friday.

"The tumor was relatively harmless, but it compressed the internal carotid artery. It's a natural death."

Elkins said Tate had convulsions or blacked out from the stroke, causing the wreck. Two passengers suffered minor

injuries.

A bronze medalist in the 1976 Olympics, Tate won the WBA title in Pretoria, South Africa, with a decision over Gerrie Coetzee on Oct. 20, 1979.

He lost it to Mike Weaver the following March in Knoxville when he was knocked out.

Tate, a native of West Memphis, Ark., admitted to a cocaine habit during a five-year period in the 1980s and served time in prison for convictions on petty theft and assault charges.

His career record was 34-3 with 23 knockouts.

The Anthony Funeral Home in West Memphis is in charge of arrangements.